

BRADFORD, ELIZABETH

DUXBURY CLIPPER

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PH

Memories of Yesterday

In 1924 Mr. and Mrs. Frederick B. Knapp of Duxbury gave the Duxbury Library a 100-year-old botanical collection of 166 specimens which had been gathered and arranged by Elizabeth Bradford. According to a 1924 newspaper account, "The Botany of Dr. Jacob Bigelow, that was used in classification, accompanies the gift and the three books placed in a beautiful chest which bears an engraved copper plate inscribed

WILD FLOWERS OF DUXBURY

Collected by
Elizabeth Hickling Bradford
1809-1890"

The flowers, which had been gathered from April to October in 1836, were presented by Mr. Knapp's mother, Mrs. Lucia Knapp of Plymouth, "in fulfillment of the expressed wish of her aunt, that eventually they should be placed in the Duxbury Library."

Elizabeth Hickling Bradford was the third of the four daughters of Captain Gershom Bradford and his wife Sarah Hickling, who lived in one of the three interesting old houses built by Captain Bradford in 1809 on Tremont St. This was one of the old Duxbury families. All the daughters were accomplished botanists who gathered and pressed flowers, but Elizabeth "did her work so thoroughly, with such nicety and dainty skill" were these specimens mounted and classified so beautifully that her collection was a model."